

PRESS RELEASE

New Non-Antibiotic Medical Product Against Atopic Eczema

State of Brandenburg sponsors BELANO medical's development of new prophylactic product

Hennigsdorf b. Berlin, 4 February 2021 – Worldwide, there is great clinical demand for non-antibiotic options to target and safely remove pathogenic germs from the skin of patients suffering from atopic eczema patients. Remedies such as antibiotics or antiseptics, which we have so far relied on, are in many cases not indicated, lack effectiveness, or when used have complex side effects and often negative consequences such as development of resistance or changes to the makeup of the skin microbiome. For this reason, BELANO medical AG has initiated development of a highly innovative topical (for external application) class IIa medical product for the treatment of atopic eczema.

The novel product will be based on aureosan® and salvans®, two proprietary ingredients whose effectiveness has been demonstrated in extensive research. It is intended to help reduce the skin's colonization with staphylococcus aureus (*S. aureus*) and streptococcus pyogenes (*S. pyogenes*), bacteria which may cause disease. Both pathogens play a key role in chronic atopic eczema which can not yet be treated preventively. The product in development is to fill this void. Research and development is scheduled to receive support from the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Labour, and Energy of the State of Brandenburg, with almost 2 million Euros dedicated until the end of 2022.

Market potential: Some 4.5 million people affected in Germany

Atopic dermatitis (atopic dermatitis) is an inflammation of the skin which follows a relapsing course. It often affects scalp, face, and hands and is accompanied by agonizing itchiness. Surveys have shown that in Germany, some 2 million children and 2.5 million adults suffer from atopic eczema. 14 percent of the global population develop atopic eczema at some point in their lives. (*) This makes atopic eczema the most prevalent chronic skin disease.

Contrary to the large bacterial diversity and low staphylococcus aureus load found on healthy skin, up to 90 percent of the skin flora of atopic eczema patients consists of *S. aureus*. In addition, their impaired immune defense may make atopic eczema patients susceptible to infection by other pathogen bacteria and viruses, including so-called superinfections.

The two active ingredients in the BELANO medical's new medical product – aureosan® to combat *S. aureus*, and salvans® against *S. pyogenes* – are based on natural lactic acid bacteria. Their elements have a structure which lets them bind naturally to the structure of the pathogen germs, potentially reducing further colonization by the latter. The studies now sponsored by the State of Brandenburg research development of a product based on a combination of both mechanisms of action.

Medical body wash, lotion, or cleansing spray feasible

The new medical product is developed as a skin cleanser which removes the respective pathogens during application and rebalances the skin microbiome without triggering side effects. The product may be realized as a body wash or shower gel which after application is rinsed or wiped off the skin.

BELANO medical has already developed and marketed a number of bio-based medical products, among them salvans® throat lozenges for bacterial sore throats and colds, and medical ventrisana® chewing gum against periodontal disease and gum inflammation. The R & D project also covers research into the clinical advantages of combining use of the new product with that of an existing cosmetic, and also bio-based product for the medical care and concomitant treatment of atopic eczema (“ibiotics med” with the ingredient stimulans®).

Please direct any inquiries concerning the new product and clinical research to Professor Dr Christine Lang, professor for microbiology at the Technical University of Berlin and head of research and development at BELANO medical.

(*) Source: Helmholtz Zentrum. German Research Center for Environmental Health

About BELANO medical AG:

BELANO medical AG is a biotechnology company which leverages the findings of its research into beneficial microorganisms for pharmaceutical and care products. The company develops and brings to market novel approaches to medical skin care, disease prevention, and the support of healing processes. In this way, new therapeutic options are created for diseases and indications which currently cannot be treated satisfactorily. BELANO’s mission is to make its patented agents and products available to everyone. To do so, the company relies on national and international collaboration with distributors and larger partners.

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